Supply of Gas from Myanmar

666. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been pursuing Myanmar to Supply piped gas to India; and

(b) if so, the latest prospects for procurement and purchase of natural gas from Myanmar indicating the length and cost of the pipeline required for the purpose and the gas to be purchased and the terms of supply offered by Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (b)Yes, Sir, India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Myanmar through onland pipeline from Myanmar *via*-North Eastern States of the country. The length of the proposed pipeline from Myanmar border to Gaya (Bihar) is about 1573 kms. and the project cost is estimated to be around Rs. 8,500 crores. GAIL has already submitted its bid in response to Invitation of Bid by Ministry of Energy, Government of the Union of Myanmar for purchase of gas from Shwe & Shwe Phyu fields in A-1 block and Mya field in A-3 block in September, 2006. Government has recently intimated to GAIL, that they are reviewing their decision to sell this gas through the pipeline route. Myanmar is exploring other options of selling the gas.

Exploration of oil in Kerala Coast

667. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC proposes to conduct study on the presence of oil in the Kerala Coast;

(b) if so, what type of study is proposed in this regard at present;

(c) whether any survey has already been conducted to assess the presence of oil in this field; and

(d) the locations in the Kerala Coast where the oil exploration is proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is actively pursuing search for oil off the Kerala